

# Offender Re-Entry: One Jail's Perspective

Montgomery County Department of Correction  
and Rehabilitation

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Re-Entry Unit Social Worker


# Montgomery County Correctional Facility



# What is Re-Entry?

The transition from incarceration in jails or prisons back to the community.


# Why Provide Re-Entry Services

- ◆ To improve the likelihood of a successful return to the community.
  - ◆ Reduce future crime.
  - ◆ Assist all citizens of our communities to become productive, healthy members of society.
  - ◆ Build stronger, healthier families.
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# Who Needs Re-Entry

- ◆ Adults
- ◆ Children
- ◆ Families
- ◆ Communities
- ◆ Workforce
- ◆ ANYONE WHO IS INCARCERATED!


# Typical Re-Entry Client Needs:

- ◆ Ongoing medications (physical and psychiatric)
  - ◆ Ongoing mental health counseling
  - ◆ Substance abuse counseling
  - ◆ Domestic Violence Programs
  - ◆ Shelter Referrals
  - ◆ Food stamps and food bank
  - ◆ Access to community health clinics
  - ◆ Job and educational programs
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# When Does Re-Entry Begin?

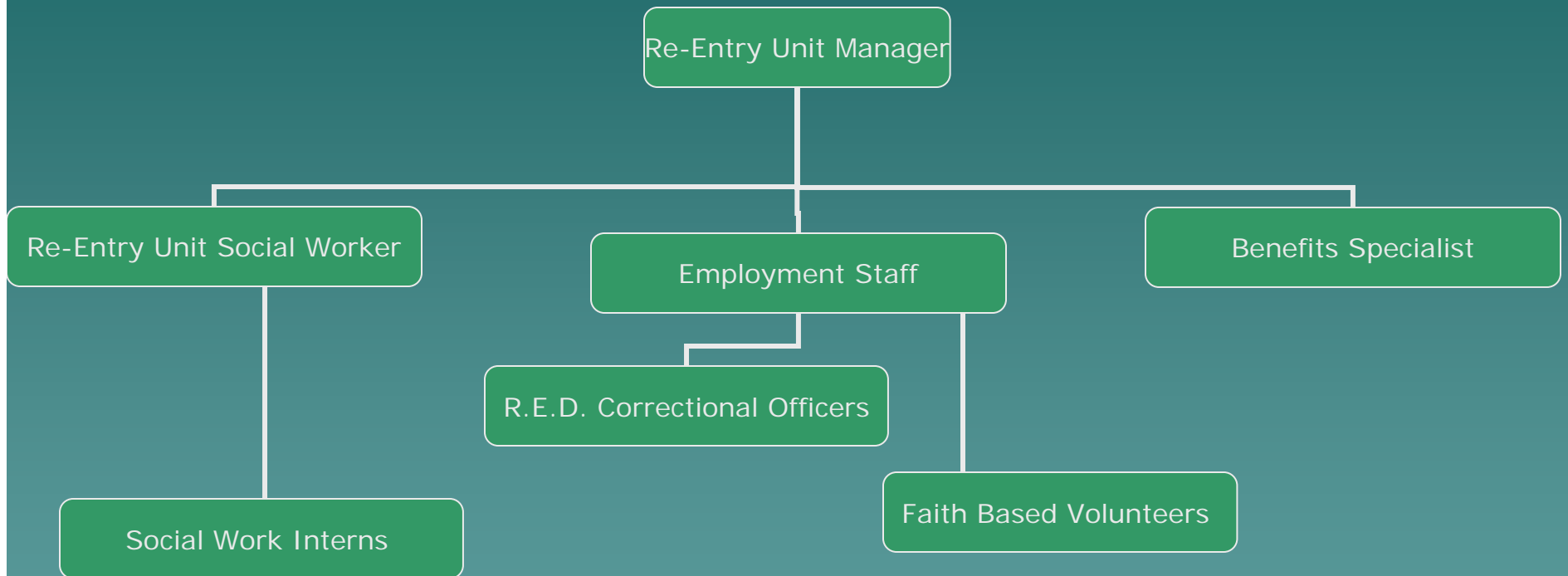
- ◆ Upon entering the facility, inmate needs are assessed by the case manager.
- ◆ Inmates are encouraged to participate in educational programming, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, job readiness and/or Moral Reconciliation Therapy.

## When? (con't)

- ◆ Within 90 days of release date, Re-entry planning begins with a focus on (re) assessment of current and continued needs and “treatment planning” begins.
  - ◆ Referrals are initiated and appointments are scheduled.
  - ◆ Inmates are released with a treatment plan in hand.
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# Re-Entry Unit “In House” Staff




# Collaborative Case Management

What the heck is that?



# Collaborative Case Management

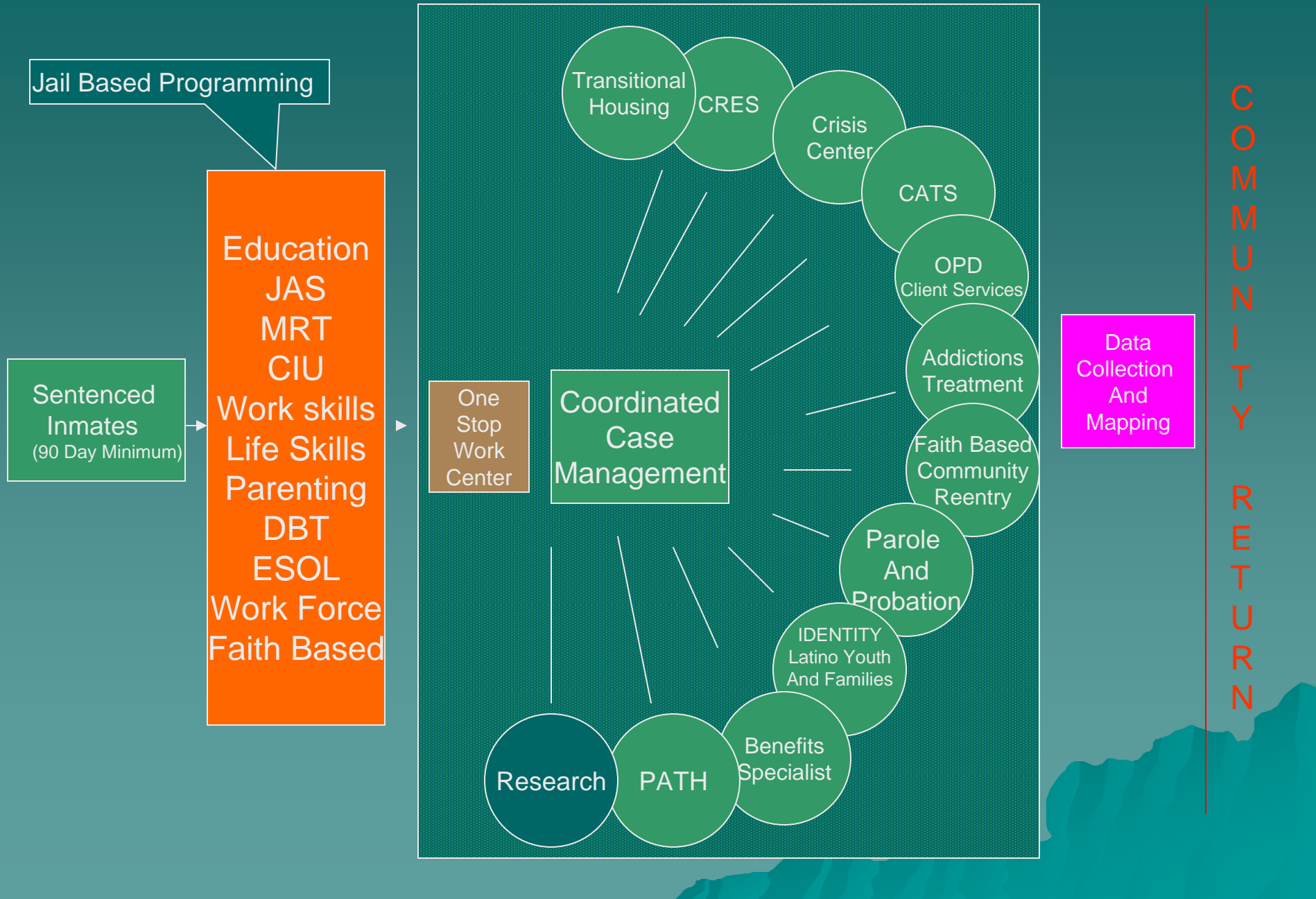
- ◆ Meets Bi-weekly
  - ◆ Key to post release planning
  - ◆ Identification of resources
  - ◆ Sharing information
  - ◆ Linkages are initiated
  - ◆ Referrals are made
  - ◆ Partnerships are initiated
  - ◆ Formal and Informal networking
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# Partners in Attendance

- ◆ Office of the Public Defender
- ◆ Parole and Probation
- ◆ Police
- ◆ Mental Health Treatment Providers
- ◆ Substance Abuse Treatment Providers
- ◆ Crisis Center
- ◆ Faith Based Organizations
- ◆ Cultural-based organizations
- ◆ Medical Providers
- ◆ “In House” Case managers and treatment providers


**On average we have 40+ direct service providers present!**

# ***Jail Based Reentry***




Linkages and referrals are made during the meeting and Re-Entry work is “officially” started.

# Benefit Specialist


- ◆ Liaison between the Family Investment Administration and special needs populations
  - ◆ Ensures that Medical Assistance, PAC Program, Food Stamps and Cash Benefits are applied for before release
  - ◆ Helps direct inmates in establishing or re-establishing Social Security benefits
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# Criteria for Eligibility

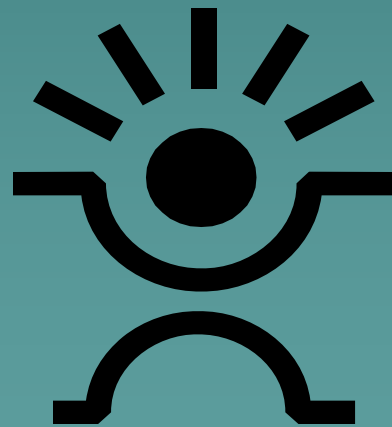
- ◆ Montgomery County residents only
  - ◆ Sentenced and within 60 days of release
  - ◆ No detainers
  - ◆ Inmates and their family members living in the same household
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# How does the referral process work?

- ◆ Referrals are taken from social workers, attorneys, medical providers, substance abuse and mental health treatment providers, and any other DOCR staff or community partner
  - ◆ Medical completes the 402B form (for MA and TDAP)
  - ◆ Team effort!
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# Progress Since 12/11/2006:

- ◆ 81% Food Stamps approval
- ◆ 48% TDAP approval
- ◆ 27% Medical Assistance approval



# Family Outreach

Because offenders are part of a family system we extend our services to family members as well.

# Building Bridges from Incarceration to Community

Learn about community resources that can support you and your family as your loved one returns home from jail

*You are cordially invited to*

## Family OutReach Nite

**Monday, October 22, 2007**

Health and Human Services Building  
401 Hungerford Drive 1st Floor  
Rockville, Maryland



**6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

### Your Welcoming Committee!

*Ka Wong, Health and Human Services*  
*Veronica Cruz, Office of the Public Defenders*  
*Wendy Miller, MCCF Re-Entry Unit*  
*Gale Starkey, MCCF Re-Entry Unit*  
*Brenda Mader, Office of the Public Defenders*



*For more information, contact Gale Starkey at 240-773-9769*  
*Sponsored by the Montgomery County Correctional Facility Re-Entry Unit,*  
*Office of the Public Defenders and Health and Human Services*

# Construyendo Puentes desde la Cárcel a la Comunidad

Infórmese acerca de los recursos comunitarios que pueden ayudarle a usted y su familia cuando un ser querido regresa de la cárcel a la casa.

*Usted está cordialmente invitado a la:*

## Noche de Acercamiento Familiar

**Lunes 22 de Octubre del 2007**

Health and Human Services Building  
401 Hungerford Drive 1st Floor  
Rockville, Maryland



**6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

### Su Comité de bienvenida!

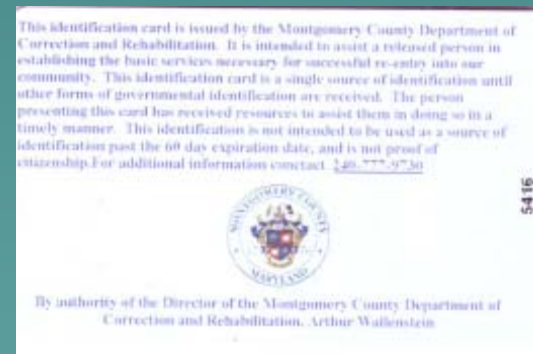
*Ka Wong, Salud y Servicios Humanos*  
*Veronica Cruz, Oficina del Defensor Público*  
*Wendy Miller, MCCF Unidad de Reintegración*  
*Gale Starkey, MCCF Unidad de Reintegración*  
*Brenda Mader, Oficina de Defensor Público*



*Para mas información, puede llamar a Gale Starkey al 240-773-9769*  
*Patrocinado por la Unidad de Reintegración del Centro Correccional de Montgomery,*  
*La Oficina del Defensor Publico y Salud y Servicios Humanos del condado.*

# Re-Entry ID Card

- ◆ Legal Photo Identification
- ◆ *RIDE ON bus/Transit* Pass
- ◆ Library Card for computer access



# Why do ex-offenders need an ID?

- ◆ To get a job
- ◆ To access county based substance abuse and mental health treatment
- ◆ To access public health care clinics
- ◆ To ride the bus to and from appointments

# Montgomery Cares

- ◆ 28 clinics in the county
- ◆ Provides basic health care and chronic condition health care
- ◆ Low or no cost for the uninsured
- ◆ Various languages spoken
- ◆ Referrals to specialty services provided when needed
- ◆ Appointments can be scheduled prior to release



# WAIT! What about Medication!

Re-entry clients receiving medication while incarcerated can receive “take home” medication to bridge the gap between their release date and first appointment in the community.

# HOW?

- ◆ The case worker or social worker who is coordinating the Re-Entry services notifies the medical department about 2 weeks prior to release and the nurse orders the appropriate supply of medication needed.
- ◆ The medication is given to the inmate at release.

# *Re-Entry Employment Development (R.E.D. Team)*

*A Quick Look Around*

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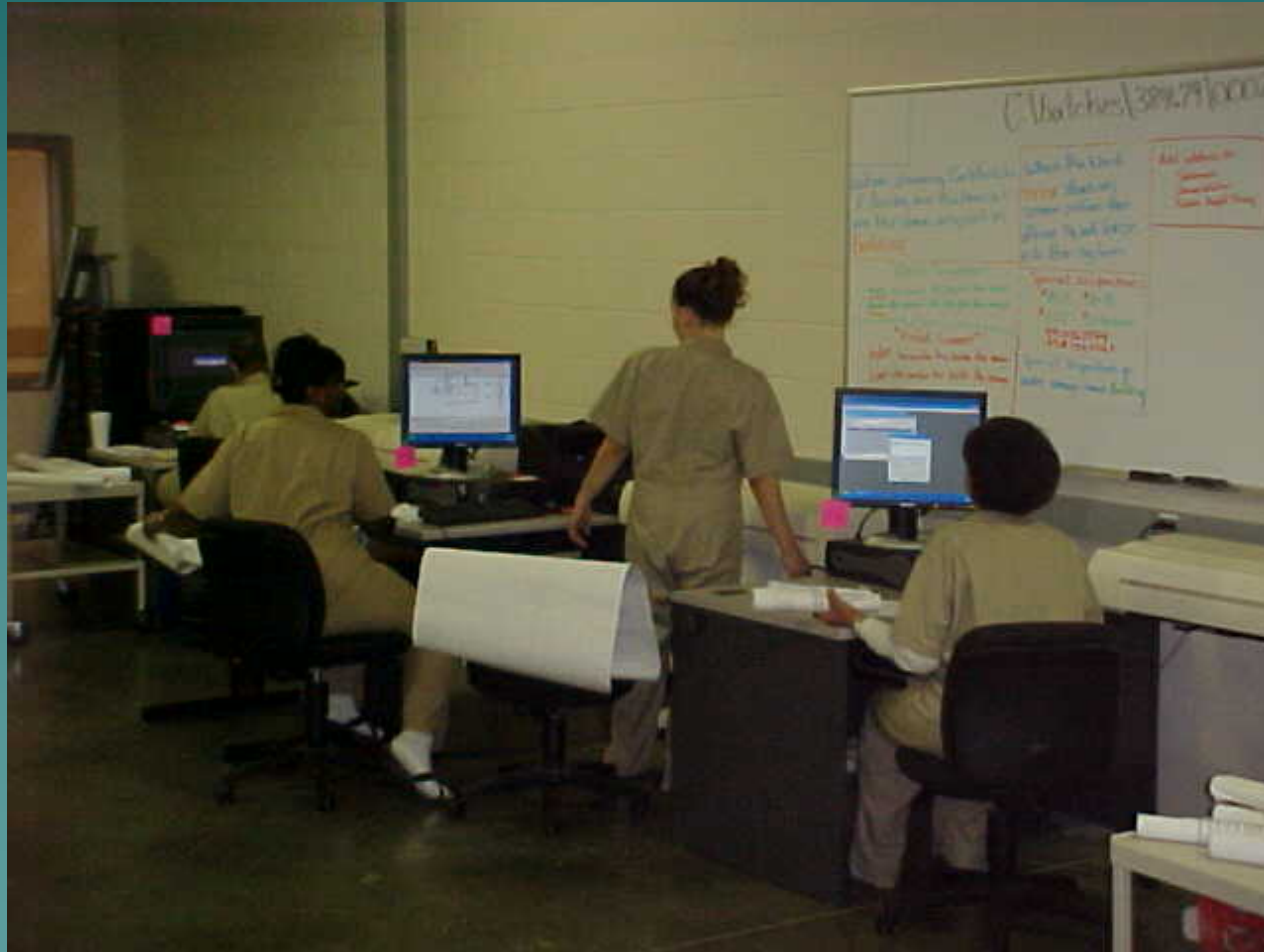
# Job Shop



# Daily Newspaper Scanning



# Digital Imaging Shop





# *PREPARING FOR EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS*

Digital Imaging Shop  
Job Shop



Bakery Program Graduation  
Lifeskills Education

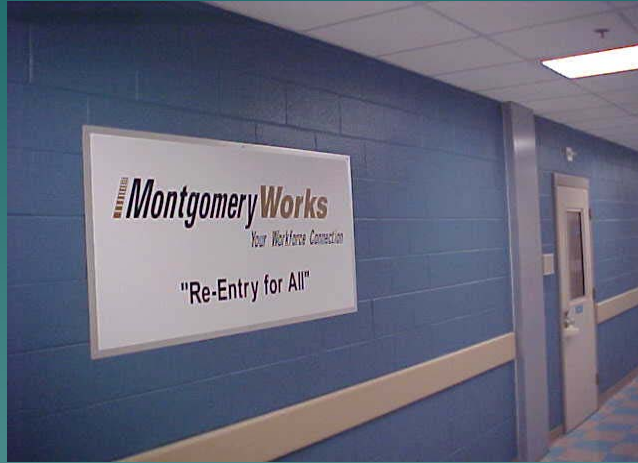


# Re-Entry Employment Services






# MCCF ONE STOP OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT CENTER



# Facility-based One-Stop Career Center


- ◆ Resource Library
  - ◆ Computer Lab
  - ◆ Video Room
  - ◆ Legal Identification Card
  - ◆ Practice Interviewing Room
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# Computer Lab

- ◆ Labor Market Research
- ◆ Self-Assessment
- ◆ Work on resumes, cover letters, and applications
- ◆ Job Search
- ◆ Travel information on getting to jobs



# Workshops/ Career Planning

- ◆ Job Readiness Workshops
  - ◆ One-on-One Needs Assessment & Career Planning
  - ◆ Answering the “Offense Question”
  - ◆ Good Worker Traits
  - ◆ Addressing Barriers
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# One-Stop Career Centers Lakeforest Office



*Stop by and visit  
anytime!*